



# Land Use and Energy Policy Actions

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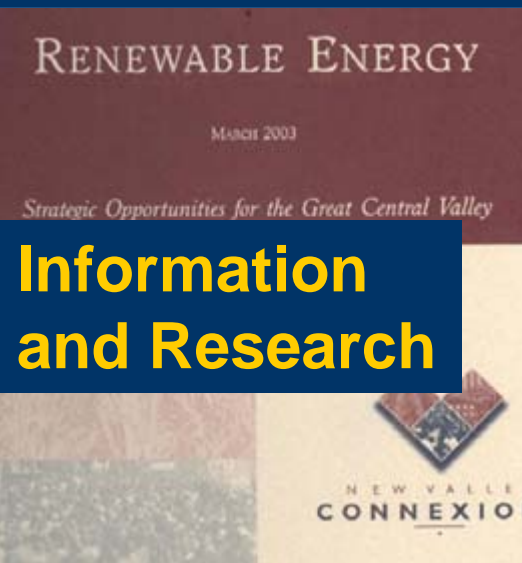
# About the Great Valley Center



The Great Valley Center's  
Headquarters in Downtown  
Modesto

- Nonprofit, nonpartisan organization founded in 1997; supported by foundations
- Provides Reliable Information and research on policy issues
- Organizes Regional events on public policy issues
- Coordinates leadership development programs for local elected officials

# The Great Valley Center's Involvement with Energy



**Renewable Energy:  
Strategic Options for the  
Great Central Valley (2003)**

**Ethanol in California (2004)**

**Clean Energy Roadmap for  
the Greater Fresno Area  
(2005)**



**-Fresno Solar Homes Tours  
-Renewable Energy Tour  
-Million Solar Roof Partner**



**Energy and  
Resources are  
key module of  
flagship  
leadership  
development  
program**





**450 miles long**

**50 miles wide**

REDDING

SACRAMENTO

MODESTO

SAN FRANCISCO

BAKERSFIELD

**California's Great Central  
Valley from space**

**Land Area the size of  
Great Britain**

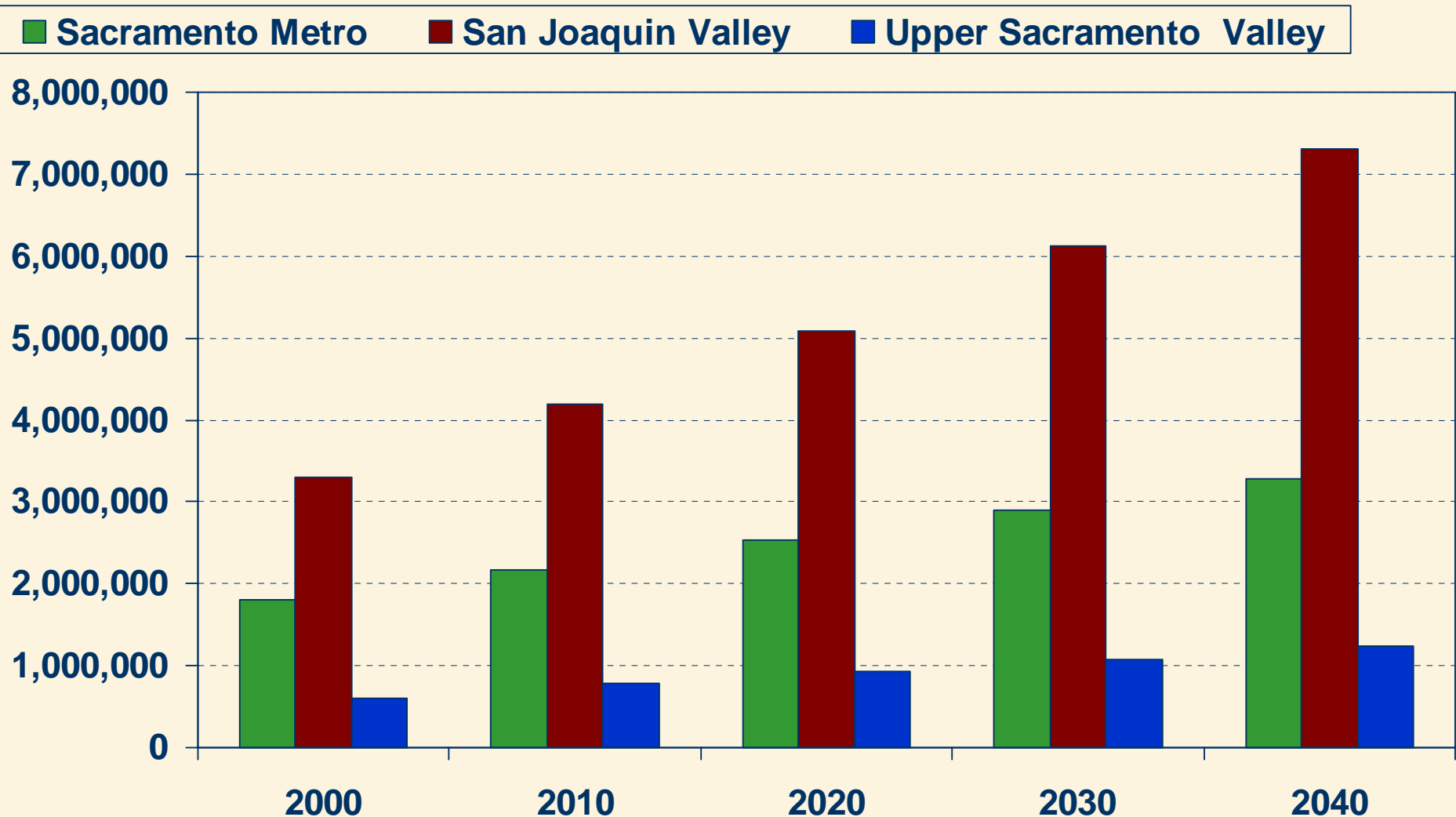
**6.3 Million people in 2006**

**57% of State's  
Agricultural Output**

# What's ahead for the Valley?

## More people than Bay Area by 2020

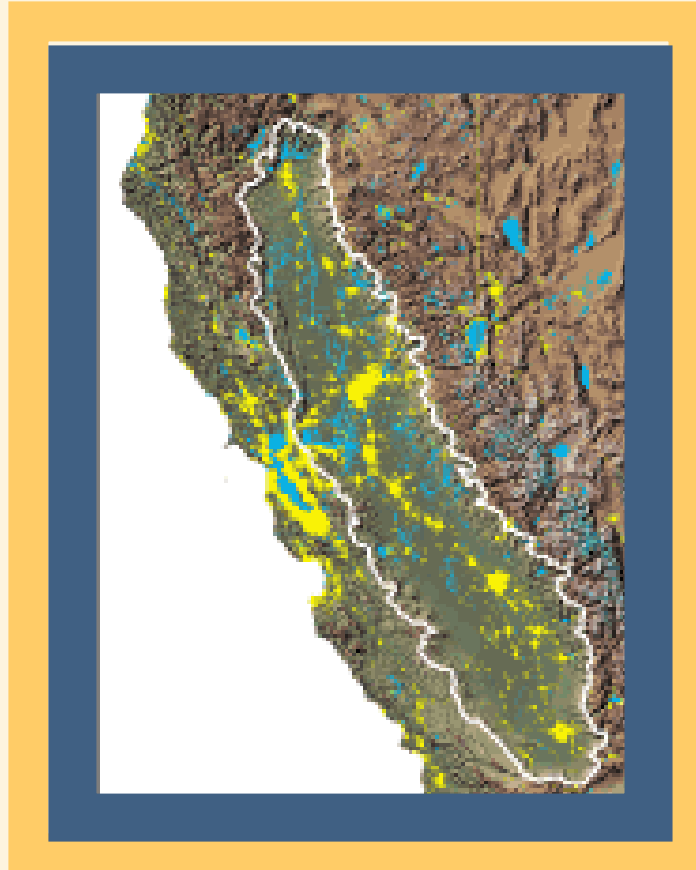
### Ten New Fresnos by 2040



Source: Public Policy Institute of California; Calif. Dept. of Finance

The  
pattern  
thus far:

Urban  
growth  
since  
1925  
clustered  
along  
Highway  
99



1925

1940

1954

1964

1975

1996

Source: "Assessment  
of Urban Growth in the  
Central Valley" USGS  
and Great Valley  
Center (2000).



**Why it matters:** Most new homes have been built on agricultural land



**Fresno, California (2005)**



**Why it matters:** This has led to brewing agricultural/urban land use conflicts and questions regarding the region's job base



**Modesto, California (2003)**



**Smart  
Growth  
is often  
discussed  
as one of  
many  
solutions**

- **Increased Densities**
- **Allowing for mixed uses**
- **Building near transit**
- **Walkable neighborhoods**

# **The state's Energy Goals include energy that is...**

- **Cost-effective and affordable**
- **Adequate, Reliable and Sufficient**
- **Include Renewables**
- **Include Conservation**

**There are connections  
between these goals and  
smart growth elements...**

**Promising  
Renewable  
opportunities  
rely on the  
continued  
existence of  
farming:**

**Biomass Energy from  
almond shells, cow  
manure, or rice straw  
for example.**





**Region's  
Agriculture  
Industry  
produces  
significant  
amount of  
waste  
residue that  
could  
produce  
electricity**

**Source: Renewable  
Energy: Strategic  
Options for the Great  
Central Valley**

## **Total Energy Potential from Biomass Residue**

County	Class	mmbtu
Butte	Good	775,001 - 2,500,000
Colusa	Fair	50 - 755,000
El Dorado	Good	775,001 - 2,500,000
Fresno	Excellent	2,500,000 - 5,500,000
Glenn	Good	775,001 - 2,500,000
Kern	Excellent	2,500,000 - 5,500,000
Kings	Excellent	2,500,000 - 5,500,000
Madera	Good	775,001 - 2,500,000
Merced	Superb	5,500,000 - 11,200,000
Placer	Fair	50 - 755,000
Sacramento	Good	775,001 - 2,500,000
San Joaquin	Superb	5,500,000 - 11,200,000
Shasta	Excellent	2,500,000 - 5,500,000
Stanislaus	Superb	5,500,000 - 11,200,000
Sutter	Fair	50 - 755,000
Tehama	Fair	50 - 755,000
Tulare	Superb	5,500,000 - 11,200,000
Yolo	Good	775,001 - 2,500,000
Yuba	Fair	50 - 755,000

**Walkable,  
coordinated  
neighborhoods  
that incorporate  
trees would  
promote  
conservation  
through reduced  
demand**



# **Cost- effectiveness**

- Incentives for entire communities in fast growing regions would maximize impact through economies of scale
- Perhaps in the form of grants, assistance, or model programs

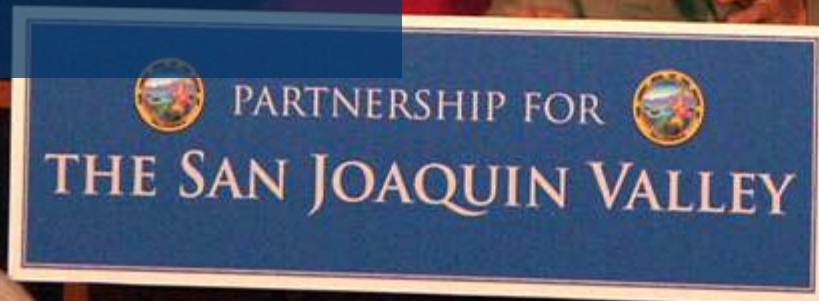


**Sacramento  
(2005)**

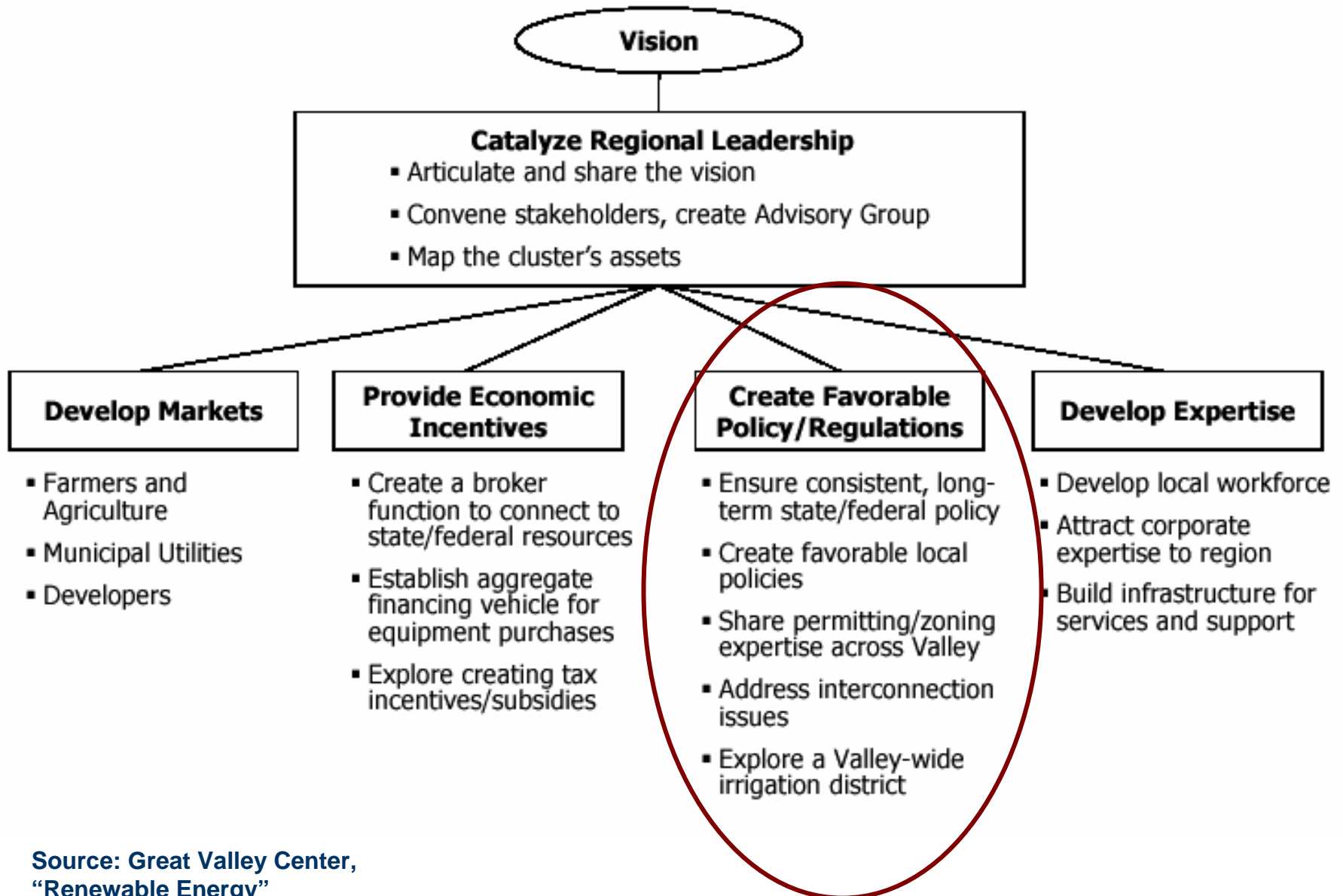


# **Current Opportunity to promote new ideas and incentives: The Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley**

**This Public/Private Task  
Force is developing  
recommendations on  
land use that will be  
considered by the San  
Joaquin Valley Blueprint  
Planning Process**



# Potential Action Strategies



Source: Great Valley Center,  
"Renewable Energy"

# Concluding Thoughts



LEED Silver Energy Efficiency being built into all UC Merced buildings

- **INCENTIVES:** Assistance will be necessary for some period of time in order to address high costs
- **INTEREST EXISTS FOR OUTREACH:** Not much on the ground, yet growing interest
- **UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY:** Governor's Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and the San Joaquin Blueprint provide a framework to have a coordinated impact





# Contact Information

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